

## Information Sheet on SWAp-JLP events

The Joint Learning Programme (JLP) on Sector-Wide Approaches (SWAp), is implemented within the framework of the Joint Donors' Competence Development Network (Train4Dev). A joint donor group comprising Denmark, the European Union, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom sponsors the SWAp-JLP.

Since the pilot phase in 2005, available funding supports some 21 country level learning events in Africa, Asia, Latin America plus a stocktaking workshop. At the end of 2007, all but two of the country level events have been held, and these two remaining events have been programmed for January 2008. The possibility of a donor headquarters event in the first quarter 2008 is under consideration. At the moment, options are being developed for future continuation of joint SWAp learning.

**Objective:** Capacity is developed among donors and partner country staff to effectively participate in SWAp processes.

**Outcomes:** By the end of the events, participants have enhanced their capacity to work through the sector-wide approach by:

- Sharing a language and understanding of the key components of a sector programme;
- Assessing present conditions and options for actions that will contribute to the success of a sector programme;
- Understanding the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders;
- Recognizing and having resources to deal with major risks and challenges;
- Defining the next steps to move the process forward.

**Content:**

Three-day Event:

Module 1: The Development Agenda and key SWAp Concepts; Module 2: The Policy Framework; Module 3: Public Finance Management; Module 4: Institutions and Capacities; Module 5: Accountability and Performance Monitoring Module 6: Aid alignment and harmonization, support modalities and tools.

Recommended but optional half-day Senior Level Event:

The development agenda and key SWAp concepts and lessons; poverty reduction agenda; harmonization and alignment; programme-based approaches; financing modalities; typical challenges in SWAp for governments and donors.

**Target Groups:** Senior partners involved in the development and management of one or more specific sector programme(s). While about 60% of participants are expected to be donor staff, participation of key national partners is extremely important, as is the participation of all donors active in the sector. Agencies that are not part of the group of donors financing the JLP may therefore also be invited to participate. All sectors/themes are in principle eligible. "Themes" may cover programmes in decentralization, environment, governance, etc. that are not well defined "sectors". Applications for multi-sector learning events are also accepted. Participants are invited by the organizers locally after the event has been agreed and the logistical arrangements have been made in consultation between the organizers and the facilitators. The number of participants in a learning event should not exceed 35. Events are offered in English, French or Spanish.

**Key criteria for screening and prioritizing applications include:** Evidence that the partner government and a critical mass of donors favour a SWAp; Evidence of strong commitment to/active participation of key national partners and donors in the requested event; Relevance of objectives/outcomes of the requested event to key strategic SWAp challenges and opportunities faced by many countries/sectors; Potential for developing national capacity for further learning (i.e. how the event could assist in bringing forward the process and reaching out to larger audiences); JLP donors engaged in the sectors. A certain priority is given to sectors and countries where a relatively large share of the JLP donors are involved; Geographical distribution of the events.